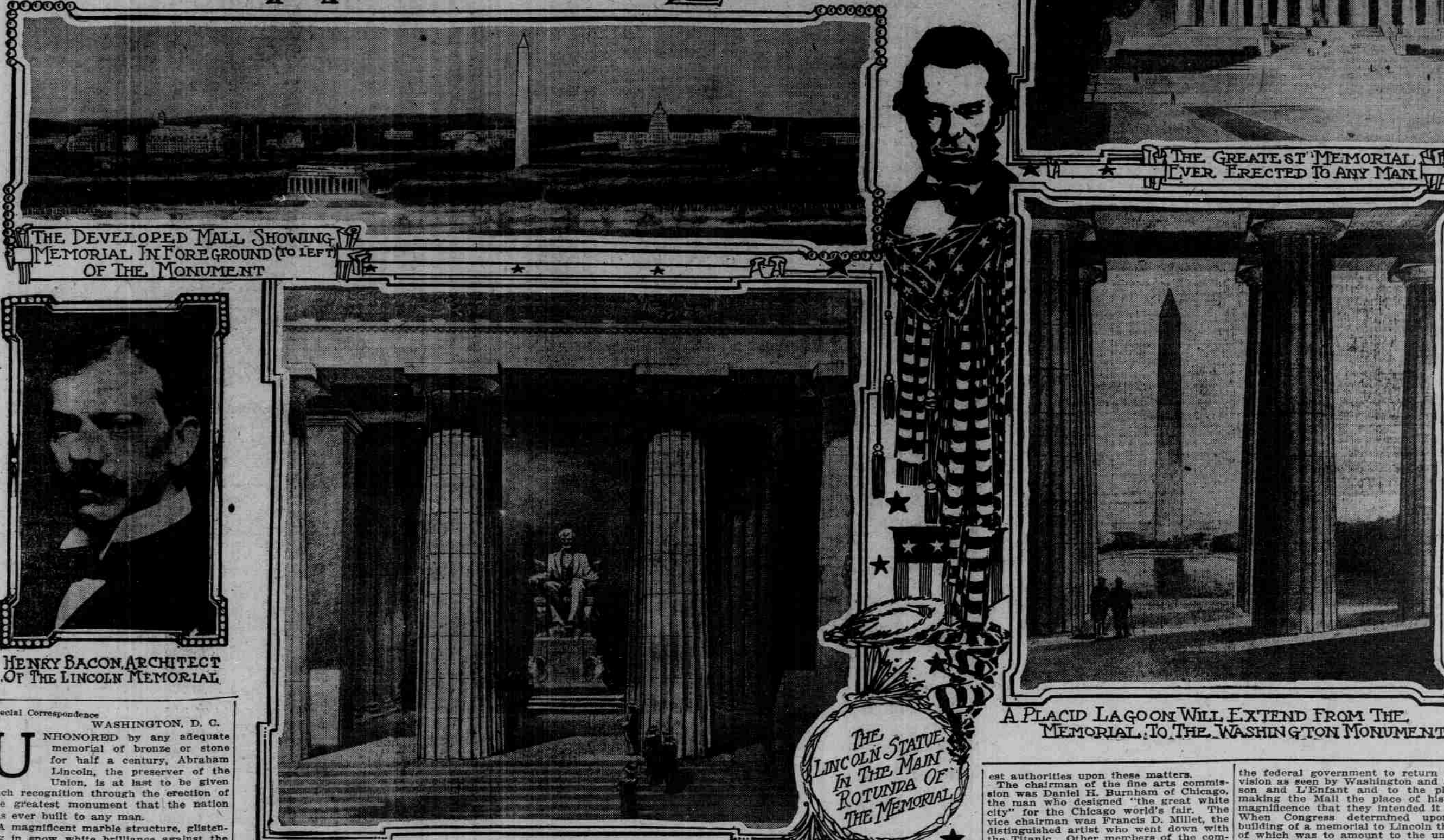


# GREATEST OF MEMORIALS TO BE BUILT TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN



HENRY BACON ARCHITECT  
OF THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL

Special Correspondence

WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNHONORED by any adequate memorial of bronze or stone for half a century, Abraham Lincoln, the preserver of the Union, is at last to be given such recognition through the erection of the greatest monument that the nation has ever built to any man.

A magnificent marble structure, glistening in snow white brilliance against the green background of surrounding forests and hills, and throwing down the gauntlet to any edifice heretofore built by the hand of man, is to be put up at the point where the Mall, the nation's historic parkway, reaches the water front of the no less historic Potomac river.

When this memorial is built it will trace one end of the Mall, at the other end of which stands the National Capitol. At the feet of that Capitol will stand the monument to Ulysses S. Grant, the greatest of structures of another variety. Washington's monument—that is, the magnificent simplicity of which has become most intimately associated in the public mind with the National Capitol—will be reflected in a placid lagoon a quarter of a mile long that will occupy the space between it and the Lincoln Memorial.

Directly across the Potomac stands the old Lee mansion, the one-time home of the leader of the Confederacy. It forms the executive mansion of Arlington cemetery, the nation's burying place for its distinguished dead. Linking these two, as Lincoln and Lee might have in spirit clasped hands across the Potomac, and typifying the friendship that has been restored between the north and the south, is contemplated the erection of a great memorial bridge.

**Greatest of Parkways.**  
This final link in the three-mile chain will give to America a parkway of historic importance and artistic beauty such as has never been laid down since the world began. Beside it the classic Appian Way of Rome, bordered by statues of unparalleled beauty, will sink into insignificance. The Capitol of the United States has stood for more than a century as a model building in all American architecture. The Lee mansion, three miles away but clearly to be seen on the Virginia hills, is an excellent type of distinctive colonial architecture. The Washington Monument needs no comment. The Grant Monument and the Lincoln Memorial are on their way, with practically unlimited money back of them and their careers guarded by a fine arts commission that is insisting upon the best that the world has developed.

**History of the Memorial.**  
Of these the Lincoln memorial just now occupies the center of attention. The final consummation of the memorial plan is the result of many years of agitation. As far back as 1869 Congress incorporated the "Lincoln Monument Association," and funds were then collected toward adequate honoring of the man who had saved the Union. Those funds were insufficient, but are still in the United States Treasury. In 1902 Congress again acted upon the idea of a Lincoln memorial, and created a commission to secure plans and designs. This commission never came to any definite conclusion. Many bills providing for an adequate memorial in Washington have been introduced into Congress. No definite action was secured until, two years ago, a bill was finally passed authorizing the expenditure of \$2,000,000 for this purpose. At that time there was created a most distinguished commission, which was authorized to settle upon a location and design for such a memorial. President Taft was

chairman of that commission. Its members were Senator Shelby M. Cullom, who represents Lincoln's home district in Congress; Joseph G. Cannon, then Speaker of the House of Representatives; Champ Clark, then leader of the minority and now Speaker; Senator Thomas S. Martin,

democratic leader in the upper house; Senator George Peabody Wetmore and Representative Samuel Walker McCall. The federal government has, during the past decade, finally come to an appreciation of the artistic monstrosities that are sure to result from the erection of monu-

ments, memorials or public buildings through the method of direct legislation. So, in this case as in others of recent date, the Lincoln memorial commission, like other such bodies, was given the benefit of the advice of a fine arts commission, composed of the nation's great

est authorities upon these matters. The chairman of the fine arts commission was Daniel H. Burnham of Chicago, the man who designed "the great white city" for the Chicago world's fair. The vice chairman was Francis D. Millet, the distinguished artist who went down with the Titanic. Other members of the commission are Frederick Law Olmsted, Thomas Hastings, Daniel C. French, Cass Gilbert and Charles Moore, all men of international reputation. This commission puts at the disposal of the federal government the best that the nation has in knowledge of art, architecture and city planning. It is this commission that has persuaded

the federal government to return to the vision as seen by Washington and Jefferson and to the plan of making the Mall the place of historical magnificence that they intended it to be. When Congress determined upon the building of a memorial to Lincoln the cost of which was to amount to the unprecedented figure of \$2,000,000, there were a great many influences which sought to locate that memorial at one place or another.

The fine arts commission was asked to consider all these plans and eventually decided that from the standpoint of city development, artistic setting and general fitness the position at the other end of the Mall from the Capitol and on the brink of the Potomac was the most desirable. This commission also selected the architect and the design of the memorial.

Its report was unanimous. After much discussion the Lincoln memorial commission unanimously adopted its recommendations. The Senate of the United States has unanimously expressed its approval. The committee on library of the House of Representatives has unanimously reported in favor of the bill. But one thing remains undone before the actual erection of the memorial may begin. The House of Representatives has yet to approve the plan.

**Selecting the Architect.**  
Henry Bacon is the architect selected by the fine arts commission to design this, the most important combination of art and architectural work that the federal government has ever undertaken. Bacon is not a man who would have been selected by any other sort of board than the fine arts commission. There are scores of architects in the United States much better known than he. Yet this commission of the architects regarded Bacon as the man specially fitted for this particular piece of work. He is known as an architect's architect. The great builders of the nation have formed a habit of calling in Bacon whenever they have in hand a work of particular delicacy. Likewise has he long been a favorite with sculptors.

Bacon worked with Burnham in the building of the Chicago exposition, a work from which dates the architectural renaissance in America. He it was who designed many of the pedestals for the unsurpassed monuments of Saint-Gaudens. He is one of the board of architects for the San Francisco exposition. The appropriation of \$2,000,000 allowed Henry Bacon in building the Lincoln memorial will produce a structure of magnificent proportions. Washington's mighty monument, rising 555 feet above the ground, cost only a million and a half. No other monument in America has ever approached this expenditure. The great monument to Grant, now in course of construction will cost \$250,000. In Italy a monument has been built to Victor Emmanuel which cost practically \$2,000,000. It will be the nearest approach in the world to the Lincoln memorial, and the fine arts commission holds that with the advantages of time and place the present memorial should far surpass that in Rome.

**Unique Situation.**  
Topographically the location of this memorial will be peculiar. It is to be built on the lowest spot in Washington, despite the ordinary impression that a monument should be placed upon an eminence. The ground upon which it will stand is made land, formerly being a portion of the broad Potomac. During the last decade Potomac Park, a playground of Washington, has been built up largely of this made land. This park rests in the bottom of a great saucer. Across the Potomac the Virginia hills rise like tiers of seats above an arena. In all directions on the Washington side of the river there likewise rise hills. All these look down into the bottom of this great saucer as the seats about an arena look down into its pit. As the arrangement at the arena has proven that an event placed in the pit may be better seen than if it were placed on an elevation, so it is maintained that the memorial placed on these lowlands may be better viewed than if the old idea of elevation were adhered to. The

## UNDER THE BIG WHITE DOME

Broke the Deadlock.

Hampton Moore, representative of a district in the city of Philadelphia, tells the following story from the Baltimore convention:

"If it had not been for a Pennsylvania delegate named Joe Schraeder, Wilson might not have been nominated. At any rate, Pennsylvania would not have gone for him, and there is no telling what would have happened. 'Joe was days late, and the balloting had been going on unceasingly, with men fretting their heads out in the struggle between Clark and Wilson. Just as it came to a crisis, with Pennsylvania holding the crucial position, the Keystone state delegation was evenly divided. At that moment into the great convention hall rushed Joe with his grip. He cast his vote for Wilson, and from that moment the tide swung to the Governor of New Jersey.'

An Apostle of Authenticity.

William Burns, the detective, was once in the city of Pittsburgh, one of his close friends at the Capitol relates, on the trail of some big crooks who were giving the government all kinds of trouble. He had disguised himself very satisfactorily, he thought, and was in mortal terror lest some newspaper should discover his presence, since a statement to that effect in print would put an end to his usefulness on the case. One persistent reporter got an inkling of what was going on, and after following the disguised Burns for about three days, at last cornered him in his lodging house, which was in an obscure corner of the city. "I want you to tell me why you are here," said the reporter. "But I am not Burns."

"Oh, yes, you are!" insisted the reporter. And then, in a blaze of confidence, he added: "You see, I know all about why you are here."



**Certainly!**  
One story that President Taft delights to tell when he is introduced to an audience in a particularly flowery manner concerns a tenderfoot who witnessed an old time poker game in a Nevada mining town. "This tenderfoot stood behind the dealer," said the President, "and saw the latter deal himself four aces from the bottom of the pack. He turned to the native beside him, who had apparently watched the deal closely, and the native's face was expressionless. After a moment the tenderfoot edged closer to his neighbor and whispered, 'Did you see that?' 'See what?' inquired the native. 'Why, that man dealt himself four aces from the bottom.' 'Well, it's his deal, ain't it?' queried the native in surprise."

**Temptation.**  
Representative Solomon Francis Prouty of the seventh district of Illinois is the only man in the House of Representatives who chews gum, and he chews it with a remarkable avidity. He took the gum habit after a conference of Iowa physicians had warned him that he must either stop smoking or fill a grave. They suggested chewing gum as a substitute for his Lady Nicotine. The only time he has smoked in ten years was on a hot day last summer while out campaigning. He stopped to talk with an old farmer who was puffing at a corn-cob pipe. The smoke got into Representative Prouty's nose, and as soon as he reached town he rushed into his

office, grabbed his secretary by the arm and almost shouted: "For goodness sake dig out that pipe of yours and give me a puff! Lock the door, and let every man but you look like a doctor. I've got to smoke or bust!"

**A Peculiar Gift.**  
John Barrett, director of the Pan-American Union, is a very close friend of Andrew Carnegie, and occasionally spends a vacation with the "Auld Scots" at his Scotch country place, which is about as big as an ordinary country house. At one of these visits, before the present fine marble building of the Pan-American Union in Washington had been completed, Mr. Barrett was with Mr. Carnegie at the breakfast room at Skibo. "John," said his host, "what does that Pan-American Union of yours need more than anything else?" Mr. Barrett started to think. "Now, don't think about it," said Mr. Carnegie, "just blurt it out. The one thing you want."

Still Mr. Barrett continued to think. There were hundreds of things that he had planned for his pet project, and all of them came crowding to his mind at once. "Don't stop to think, I tell you. If there is any one big thing it needs you will know it at once. I'm going to give you anything you want, but you've got to tell it to me on the spot. If you stop to think, then I'll know it is not needed badly."

John Barrett walked to the window. His eye caught the vast expanse of lawn and trees. The scene was very beautiful, and he remembered the bare space of clay and mud surrounding the marble building of his Pan-American Union back in Washington. "Well, Mr. Carnegie," he said, "I think we need some grass more than anything else."

**Not "Full" Enough.**  
Representative Burnett of Alabama, the only man who has ever succeeded in breaking down the ancient custom of "calendar Wednesday" in the House, is the shortest man in the legislature. Once, during the fight to oust former Speaker Cannon, Mr. Burnett arose and shouted, "Mr. Speaker!" Uncle Joe looked at the man for a second and then said: "It is customary for gentlemen to rise when addressing the chair."

"I am standing to my full height," roared Burnett. But the House laughed so loud that another representative was recognized before "the gentleman from Alabama" could compose himself.

**A Foxy Deal.**  
Once upon a time when William Cannon was in Houston, representative from Tennessee, was a farmer, he took some eggs to town to sell to the hotel keeper. "How much a dozen" asked the proprietor. "Thirty cents," said the young Houston. "Pretty high, ain't they?" "No eggs are so good."

"Well, give me eight dozen," Houston counted out his eggs and found he had just one more than eight dozen, so he slipped the ninety-seventh egg in his pocket. "That's a mean trick," said the hotel man. "You ought to give me that egg as good measure."

"Can't do it," said Houston. "That's where I make my profit. I have figured pretty close. But I'll give you that egg for a drink."

The bargain was made, and the two went into the hotel bar. "What'll you have?" asked the hotel keeper, as he took the extra egg. "Oh, give me a little egg and sherry," said Houston.

hills about Washington furnish the points of vantage for looking into the pit. The magnificent proportions of this memorial are hard to appreciate. The first step in its building will be the construction of a series of terraces. These will elevate the base of the memorial itself to a height of twenty feet above the present grade. The first terrace will be 1,000 feet in diameter. In the center of this plateau, surrounded by a wide road-way and walks, will rise an entablature supporting a rectangular stone wall which bounds the second terrace. Upon this second terrace rise three huge marble columns like a giant's stairway. The memorial itself caps this pyramid of terraces.

The actual structure, composed of classic pillars and lofty halls, will be more than two hundred feet long and a hundred feet tall. It will be larger than one wing of the Capitol building. A concrete idea of its size may be had by estimating it as being as large as a six story building occupying the face of an entire block.

**Bacon's Conception.**  
The architect himself, in describing the prominent features and the purposes of the memorial, said: "The memorial itself should be free from the near approach of vehicles and traffic. Reverence and honor should suffer no distraction through lack of silence or repose in the presence of a structure reared to noble aims and great deeds."

"I propose that the memorial to Lincoln take the form of a monument symbolizing the Union of the United States of America, inclosing in the walls of its sanctuary three memorials to the man himself, one a statue of heroic size, expressing his humane personality, the others memorials of his two great speeches: one of the Gettysburg speech, the other of the second inaugural address, each with attendant sculpture and painting telling in allegory of his splendid qualities, evident in those speeches."

"The statue will occupy the place of honor, a position facing the entrance which opens toward the Capitol. This position is in a central hall, separated by screens of columns from the statues at each side, in each of which will be one of the other memorials. Each of these three memorials will thus be secluded and isolated and will exert its greatest influence. I cannot imagine a memorial to Lincoln so powerful in its meaning and so appropriate to his life as an imposing emblem of the Union inclosing memorials of his qualities and achievements. Such a memorial placed on a site of such significance and possibility of vantage would be a fitting monument to the man who saved the Union in Potomac Park will convey its lesson with the greatest force."

"The slight difficulty in the way of making an imposing and appropriate setting for the memorial, which, by means of an elevation of the site, will rise many feet above the tops of the proposed surrounding trees, even when full grown. It will be necessary to remove points of view, and by means of openings in the enclosing foliage will be seen in its entirety from six different vantage approaches. Its whole eastern and western facades will be exposed to view, the former toward the Washington Monument and the latter toward the Potomac river and hills of Arlington."

**Symbolizes Nation's Growth.**  
"On a granite rectangular base is placed a series of pilasters or steps, thirteen in number, typifying the thirteen original states. The top step supports on its outer edge a series of twelve columns, thirty-six columns, symbolizing the Union of 1865, each column representing a state existing at the time of Lincoln's death. This colonnade of the Union surrounds the wall of the memorial hall, which rises through the colonnade to the top of the wall is a decoration, supported at intervals by eagles, of forty-eight memorial festoons, one for each state in the Union today. The above three features of the exterior design represent the Union as originally formed, as it was at the triumph of Lincoln's life, and as it is when we plan to erect a monument to his memory."

"These cumulative symbols house as their kernel the character of Lincoln's great qualities, which must be so portrayed to mankind that devotion, integrity, charity, patience, intelligence and humanity will find incentive to growth, and by contemplation of a monument to his memory will find incentive to growth, pride that citizens of the United States have in their country will be supplemented by gratitude to the nation for the great Lincoln for saving it to them and to their children."

"The memorial hall is sixty feet wide and 125 feet long, and its walls and floor will be of colored marble. The ceiling, which is sixty feet high, will be supported by massive bronze beams, gilded, colored and lacquered, and light may be introduced through the ceiling where found by experiment to be of the best advantage. The columns of the interior are of the Greek Ionic order and are fifty feet in height. "The statue of Lincoln is of white statuary marble, and the tentative design of the figure on the sketch of the interior is twelve feet. The figure, if standing, would be about sixteen feet high. The memorials to the two speeches will be incorporated in the end walls of the memorial hall. Large tablets bearing the full text of Lincoln's two speeches, combined with adjacent allegorical figures, will form imposing memorials. At the outside vestibule are two spaces, one of which can be for the use of an attendant and the other two for a staircase giving caretakers access to the roof and the basement."

"The large doorway, eighteen feet wide and thirty-six feet high, is equipped with heavy doors of bronze grilles filled with plain glass. In mild weather these doors can be left open during the day, and in the cold winter months a temporary bronze and glass vestibule can be provided in the lower portion of the large grilles which are subdivided at the bottom for this purpose. "To the east of the memorial, extending toward the Washington Monument, is proposed a large lagoon, which will introduce into the landscape an element of repose and beauty, and in its waters the reflection of the memorial will add to its tranquility and retirement. A woodland scene should occupy the parkway round about."